

Resident Questions and Response for Canyon Crest Mayor's Night Out 5/31/06

Public Works:

Resident #1

What is being planned with regards to the increase in traffic congestion in the Canyon Crest Neighborhood?

Much of the increase in traffic that is being experienced in the Canyon Crest area is due to the freeway construction. Traffic is avoiding the 60/215 interchange and using Alessandro and Canyon Crest Drive. The City expects traffic to subside somewhat when construction is completed

In addition, the City will be improving and restriping Alessandro to 6-lanes in the beginning this summer and in early 2007 Canyon Crest will be widened to 4 lanes between Country Club and Via Vista. This Project may include a new traffic signal at Mission Grove and possibility other intersection yet to be identified and synchronizing the traffic signals along Canyon Crest. These projects should relieve most of the congestion and delay currently being experienced. The Public works Department is also working with Riverside Police Department on an enforcement program to protect the neighborhoods from cut-through traffic.

The crosswalk at Mission Grove is very dangerous due to speeding and traffic, what improvements can be made?

The City anticipates installing a traffic signal at this location in the near future; however a definite schedule has not been established.

Resident #2

Can the commercial truck traffic on Alessandro be reduced/eliminated and can sound walls be put up?

Truck traffic cannot be eliminated from Alessandro; however staff is working with the City Attorney on options to redirect many of the trucks toward the I-215. The City will also explore the establishment of a quasi-quiet zone to keep trucks from using 'Jake 'brakes. Sound walls are not part of the project but up to 6 trees per owner are being offered to residents who back up to Alessandro, to assist with noise mitigation.

Resident #3

Can the speeding between Canyon Crest and Central be monitored with a red light camera?

The City is currently looking to implement red light camera enforcement in Riverside. The locations selected will be those which have a high instance of red light running and experiencing red light accidents. Canyon Crest and Central can be reviewed to see if its one of the top intersections.

Can a red curb for the school bus be put in on Canyon Crest and Via Zapata?

A work order was issued immediately following Canyon Crest MNO and the red curb is now installed.

Resident #3

Can more red light cameras be installed throughout the City?

The City is currently looking to implement red light camera enforcement in Riverside. The locations selected will be those that have a high instance of red light running and experiencing red light accidents.

Resident #4

What is the process for requesting potholes to be filled throughout the City?

Residents can contact the City Call Center at 826-5311 to request pothole repair.

Resident #5

What can be done to reduce the number of commercial trucks traveling on Alessandro Blvd.?

Truck traffic cannot be eliminated from Alessandro; however staff is working with the City Attorney on options to redirect many of the trucks toward the I-215. The City will explore the establishment of a quasi-quiet zone and residents who own property backed to Alessandro are being offered 6 trees to assist with noise mitigation.

Resident #6

Does the city have a plan for automatic traffic enforcement, especially on Canyon Crest Dr. and Central?

The City is currently looking to implement red light camera enforcement in Riverside. The locations selected will be those that have a high instance of red light running and experiencing red light accidents. Canyon Crest and Central can be reviewed to see if its one of the top intersections.

Resident #7

Can Alessandro be widened to ease traffic congestion?

The City has a project to increase Alessandro from 4 lanes to 6 lanes between Arlington and I-215, which will be gin in July 2006 and be completed near December 2006.

Can the landscape on Chicago between Alessandro & Central be replaced?

The City is currently designing a project to complete Chicago including landscaping the medians between Alessandro and Martin Luther King. The City anticipates issuing a construction contract for the first phase in late 2006.

Does the City have a plan to increase automobile accessibility to the Canyon Crest and Mission Grove Neighborhoods?

The proposed projects on Alessandro to increase the travel lanes from 4-6, installation of raised islands to limit "cut-thru" routes, re-timing of the traffic signals along Arlington, Alessandro, Trautwein, and Van Buren will all improve the circulation in these two areas. The City will also be widening Canyon Crest

to 4 lanes from Via Vista to Country Club Drive Competition of the 60/91/215 interchange (approx Dec. 2007) by Caltrans will reduce the traffic levels on these streets, providing further improvement.

Resident #8

What is the process to get speed humps installed on Canyon Crest Dr.?

Canyon Crest is not eligible for speed humps due to the importance of the street in providing access to numerous neighborhoods in the area. The City has installed a Speed Feed back sign near Ransom and has noted significant decrease in speeds in that area. Staff will continue to work with P.D. to explore other options for reducing speeds on Canyon Crest including special enforcement details, signal timing, etc.

Can the island on Chicago, south of Central, be extended to prevent U-turns?

The city has a project to modify the median on Chicago north of Central to provide a dual left turn. This should reduce or eliminate the need to make U - Turns south of Central.

Can commercial trucks using Country Club Dr. be prohibited?

Some trucks are allowed on Country Club if they have a delivery and it is a direct route. The City is working with the Manager at the Country Club to re route deliveries to and from Canyon Crest and not come in/out from Chicago as much as possible.

Resident #9

Can Overlook Parkway be extended to make it easier to get around the city?

The completion of Overlook Parkway is on the City's General Plan and Capital improvement Program. In the early 1990's, the City established an assessment district for new home in the vicinity of Overlook Parkway and the Alessandro Arroyo to fund one-half of the construction of a bridge over the arroyo. A basis for the assessment district was that private development would construct Overlook Parkway up to the arroyo. At this time the last two developments required to bring Overlook Parkway up to the arroyo are being processed.

Resident #10

What is the city doing to limit the noise pollution and commercial truck use on Alessandro Blvd.?

Truck traffic cannot be eliminated from Alessandro; however staff is working with the City Attorney on options to redirect many of the trucks toward the I-215. The City is exploring the establishment of a quasi-quiet zone and the City is also offering up to 6 trees per residential owner who back up to Alessandro, to assist with noise mitigation.

Why is the city increasing the number of lanes on Alessandro from 4 to 6?

The current traffic volumes on Alessandro are nearing 50,000 vehicles per day, which is well in excess of the capacity for a 4 lane highway. Thus the delay and congestion on Alessandro has expanded to numerous hours beyond just the AM and PM peak hours. Traffic Studies have shown that increasing the lanes to 6 will not attract any more traffic, therefore the existing and future traffic conditions on Alessandro will be significantly improved by this addition of the two lanes.

Police Department:

Resident #11

Is it possible to increase the number of patrol units in the Sycamore Highlands area to deter daytime crime?

Yes, the City of Riverside has recently approved the hiring of 50 additional police officers. As these police officers get hired and trained, once sworn in, these officers will be assigned to areas with needed assistance. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Lt. Larry Gonzalez, East Area Commander, at (951) 951-6099. To report a non-emergency crime please call the City's non-emergency line at (951) 787-7911.

Resident #12

What can neighborhood residents do to reduce the number of parties with loud music in our neighborhoods?

Residents are encouraged to share concerns regarding loud music with the appropriate property owner, but when that is not feasible or such efforts have been unsuccessful in achieving the desired outcome; the resident should contact

the Riverside Police Department at 787-7911. Following the Mayor's Night Out meeting, City management met to discuss ways to improve the responsiveness of the City in dealing with loud party calls, especially from repeat offenders. City management is in the process of implementing new practices that will provide for a quicker response from Police or Code Enforcement Officer and the implementation of the City's existing loud party ordinance, which enables the City to charge the offending property owner for the cost of responding to loud party. If you have any additional questions please contact Lt. Larry Gonzalez, East Area Commander, at (951) 951-6099.

Resident #13

Does the police department conduct D.U.I. checkpoints?

Yes, the traffic division of the Riverside Police Department is in charge of carrying out DUI checkpoints within Riverside city limits. Riverside residents can request a checkpoint location by contacting Lt. Ken Carpenter, Traffic Division, at (951) 351-6099.

Resident #14

Does the city have an emergency evacuation plan? What are the routes?

Yes, the City of Riverside currently houses an Emergency Operations Center which is jointly managed by Riverside's Police and Fire Department. Due to security purposes evacuation plans are not open to the public; however police and fire can assure residents that Riverside does have contingency plans for both natural and man-made disasters.

Park, Rec, & Community Services

Resident #15

The new park is being misused by people, can a sign of Do's & Don'ts be posted their?

Two signs were installed on June 22 at Sycamore Canyon Park, one on Lockerton and one on Abernathy. The signs list park hours and prohibit alcoholic beverages, dogs off leash, gambling, weapons, vehicles, bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades, scooters, camping, soliciting, fireworks, horses, golfing or cutting of plants.

Resident #16

What is the status of the beach train?

Although the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department was not afforded the opportunity to sell beach train tickets this past year, we have recently been approached by the Riverside County Transportation Commission to sell year-round beach tickets. Sales of the tickets from the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department will resume in late July. The train will serve all locations along the Inland Empire–Orange County Line. Tickets can also be purchased in advance from Ticket Vending Machines located at all Metrolink stations prior to boarding. Additional fare and location information can be obtained at www.metrolinkweekends.com

Resident #17

Can something be done about the dying trees on Arlington Ave. between Victoria & Sunset Ranch?

One pine tree was completely dead in the City right of way and the tree was completely removed. A dead limb from a private pine hanging towards Arlington Ave. was trimmed. The work was started and completed on 6/14/06.

Development:

Resident #18

How can we get an art movie house in Riverside?

In February 2005, the Redevelopment Agency gained possession of the Fox Theater in Downtown Riverside. The intent of this acquisition was to transform the iconic theater into a first class Performing Arts venue for the Inland Empire Region. To assist with the transformation of the Fox Theater, the Agency Board retained Richard McCann, and architect with extensive experience in the re-use and rehabilitation of older performing arts venues, and formed a community advisory committee to assist in the development of a reuse design plan. The design plan developed for the Fox Theater will maintain the charm and important historical elements of the theater, but change the once vaudeville house into a state of the art performing arts facility that will attract top notch theatrical plays and performances. Just some of the new additions for the theater include a new stage house, state of the art lighting, sound and patron accommodations mix with the unique 1929 character of the Fox. Construction at the Fox Theater is schedule to begin late this year.

Information Technology:

Resident #19

Can the city's website be redesigned so it more user friendly for those who are trying to open a business?

Yes, the City is currently 50% the way through our City web page rebrand and enhancement project. Now would be a perfect time to include changes. We have a dedicate team of 2 web masters that are responsible for the City's web site changes. Any suggestions are welcome. Contact Steve Lowery at 826-5606 slowery@riversideca.gov.

Resident #20

Is it possible to get a city wide WiFi network?

The City has recently sent out a request for proposal (RFP) for a City-wide WiFi network. Responses are due back July 14th and award is expected in September of this year. It will be a 12 month implementation. For more information, contact Steve Reneker at 825-5109 sreneker@riversideca.gov.